the country is grossly under utilised for lack of orders;

(b) if so, the percentage of underutilisation of the ITI capacity;

(c) the estimated annual loss being suffered by ITI as a result thereof; and

(d) what are the reasons for lack of orders and what steps are contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The capacity is defined in terms of finished products but in telecom sector changes in product mix, technology, level of integration, the stages of the product life cycle etc. very commonly influence the capacity of the project. It is, therefore, difficult to arrive at the exact capacity for various products of the Company. Overall, till last year there has been no under utilisation of capacities but during the current year, mainly due to competition, ITI Ltd. in 4 of its units viz. Rae Bareli, Naini, Electronic City Unit and Bangalore is finding it difficult to get sufficient orders.

(c) ITI Ltd. has been making profits and efforts are on to ensure to avoid any losses.

(d) The main reason for difficulties in getting sufficient orders in the environment of competition. With a view to remain a profit making Company as also to utilise its infrastructure optimally, apart from ungradation of technologies, improving quality to international standards, adopting various cost reduction measures and diversifying the activities to networks, value added services and operating the telecom services, the Ministry has taken a policy decision that the procurement of 30 per cent equipments out of the total requirement by DOT would be earmarked for our own USUs without any concession in respect of price, quality or supply schedule.

Laying of telephone lines on lease basis

902. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Telecommunications have floated tenders for laying of telephone lines on lease basis recently;

(b) if so, how many companies participated in the bid from within the country and abroad; and

(c) the terms and conditions for laying of phone lines on lease basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) A tender for financing of Telecommunication equipments/projects through lease financing or on deferred payment terms was opened on 15-6-1994.

(b) 69 bidders have participated in this tender. Only Indian Registered Companies/Institutions were eligible to participate in the tender.

(c) The terms and conditions for obtaining finance on lease or deferred payment for the above are unedr formulation, based on the offers received and on Department's requirement.

Waiting list for telephone connection in Tamil Nadu

903. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATARAMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the plan outlay for communications improvement in Tamil Nadu sector for the year 1994 to 1995;

(b) how many applications are in the waiting list for telephone connections for the year ending 1994 in Madras, Caimbatore, Salem, Dr. Ambedkar District Villupuram, SSR District;

(c) whether steps have been taken to accomodate the applicants in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The provision of funds for Tamil Nadu Sector for 1994-95 Annual Plan is Rs. 435 crores including Madras Telephone District.

(b) The waiting list for telephones as on 31-3-1994 is given below:

1.	Madras	90,342
2.	Coimbatore	57,818
3.	Salem	22,135
4.	Dr. Ambedkar Distt.	40,948
5.	Villupuram SSR Distt.	1,090

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) National Telecom Policy 1994 envisages to provide telephone connections on demand by 1.4.97. Expansion of Telecom Network is being planned accordingly. During 1994-95, 1,52,000 telephone connections are planned to be provided in Tamil Nadu including Coimbatore, Salem, Dr. Ambedkar District, Villipuram SSR and Madras Telephone District.

Arrears of Telephone bills of Imam of Jama Masjid

904. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Imam of Jama Masjid owe a sum of Rs. 1.5 crore to Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited as arrears of Telephone bills;

(b) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has sanctioned number of P.C.O.'s in favour of the Imam of Jama Masjid;

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to recover Government dues from the Imam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir. A sum of Rs. 7045/- is only outstanding against the Imam of Jama Masjid as on date.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) The outstanding dues are current dues. Action as per departmental rules is being taken for their recovery.

Target for installation of STD/PCO in Punjab

905. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the target fixed for installation of STD/PCO in the country for the year 1993-94 has not been achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State wise and the reasons therefore;

(c) what is the target fixed for the installation of STD/PCO in Punjab for the year 1994-95; and

(d) what effective measures Government propose to take to achieve the target in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are as per Statement. (See below) The reasons for not achieving the targets are due to delay in completion of formalities by the applicants and technical constraints.

(c) 2600 numbers of STD PCOs are targetted to be provided during 1994-95 in Punjab Telecom. Circle.